

Are We Once Saved, Always Saved?

I. The Conditional Nature Of Salvation.

A. **Salvation can be lost because it is conditional.** This is where we must begin in proving the possibility of apostasy. This point alone will prove that salvation can be lost.

B. First, understand that there are **two roles in salvation**- God's and man's; both of these roles must be present in order for a person to be saved. Ephesians 2:8 proves this point- we are saved by both grace (God's role) and faith (man's role). Can a person be saved without faith? If the answer is "No," then obtaining salvation is clearly conditional. **Consider also Titus 2:11.** We are told here that grace has appeared to all men. *If grace is unconditional, then all people will be saved.* We can conclude then that grace is conditional.

B. Maintaining salvation is conditional (*notice word "if"*):

1. John 8:51... If we do not keep His words, we will see death (spiritually).
2. Acts 8:22... Simon had to repent and pray in order to be forgiven.
3. Romans 11:22... We must continue in His goodness.
4. 1 Corinthians 15:1-2... We are saved IF we keep in memory the gospel.
5. Hebrews 3:6, 14... In order to remain in house of Christ, we must hold fast.
6. Hebrews 10:38... The just live by faith, but IF we draw back...
7. 1 John 1:7-9... Must walk in light; must confess in order to be forgiven.
8. Revelation 2:10... Must remain faithful in order to receive crown of life.

C. Questions to ask:

1. If the grace of God has appeared to all men, does that mean that all are saved?
2. Are there one or two roles in salvation? Are we unconditionally saved?
3. Does the word "if" usually indicate a conditional statement?
4. Is maintaining salvation conditional? If not, then what is the point of these verses?
5. Does a Christian need forgiveness to continue in salvation? Is that forgiveness automatic? What if a Christian sins and is not forgiven for that sin?

II. The Promise Of Eternal Life.

A. Many people misunderstand the subject of eternal life. Contrary to popular belief, we do not actually possess eternal life so long as we are alive in this world. **Rather, we possess it in promise.**

B. Eternal life is promised:

1. Romans 13:11... "For now is our salvation nearer than when we believed."
2. Hebrews 9:28... "(He shall) appear the second time without sin unto salvation."
3. 1 Peter 1:4... "To an inheritance...reserved in heaven for you."
 - a. Also v5, "Kept by power of God...unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time."
 - b. Also v9, "Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls."
4. Hebrews 10:36... "After ye have done the will of God...receive the promise."
5. 1 John 2:25... "And this is the promise that He hath promised us- even eternal life."

C. Salvation, or eternal life, is not something that we can actually possess in this life. Rather, it is something that we possess in promise, as seen above. **We learn in 2 Pet. 3:9 that God is "Not slack concerning His promise." In other words, if God makes a promise, He WILL keep it; but we as humans with free-will CAN break our promise to God.**

D. Questions:

1. If we actually possess salvation here on earth, and if we receive it upon being saved, how can we be drawing nearer to salvation as we go through this physical life?
2. When is salvation going to appear to us? Has it already? Or is it yet future?
3. If we do not actually possess eternal life YET, and if this inheritance is conditional, then is it possible that we can fall short and lose salvation?

III. Passages That Teach Possibility Of Apostasy.

A. If we can show from the scriptures that salvation can be lost, that apostasy can occur, then it must be accepted and embraced. In addition to the several points made above, dozens of passages exist which prove that a Christian can sin so as to lose their salvation.

B. Let us not reason from consequences as the people did in Matt. 21:25. As difficult as this doctrine may be for some to accept, if the Bible teaches is, we MUST accept it.

C. Salvation can be lost:

1. Ezekiel 18:20-32... A righteous person can turn away from God and die spiritually.
 - a. Notice that spiritual death is under consideration (v4, 20).
 - b. **Most people today will accept that a wicked person can become righteous and be saved (v21-22), but they are unwilling to accept that a righteous person can become wicked and be lost (v24).**
 - c. Does God take pleasure in this? Does this imply an evil God? No! (v32)
2. Acts 8:13, 18-24... The example of Simon.
 - a. This example is so powerful that most Calvinists, when faced with it, respond only by saying, "Simon was never saved to begin with." **First of all, if Simon wasn't saved, then neither were the Corinthians**, for they ALL heard the gospel, believed and were baptized (v12-13). Also, Peter told Simon in verse 20, "Thy money perish with thee." **How could Simon perish if he was already dead? And he clearly had the Holy Spirit (v17).**
 - b. Simon perished. His heart was not right with God. He needed to repent as he was guilty of being wicked. He needed forgiveness, He was in the gall of bitterness and the bond of iniquity. Could he possibly still be saved?
3. Romans 11:22... We can be cut off.
 - a. In the context of this verse, Paul is discussing the apostasy and cutting off of Israel, God's chosen people under the old covenant. It says in verse 3, "Lord, they have killed thy prophets, and digged down thine alters." In verse 11, we learn that they had fallen and the result was salvation for the Gentiles.
 - b. Paul, in v22 warns the Gentiles of the severity of God, and tells them that if they fail to continue in His goodness, that they will be cut off, just as the Jews were. **If God's severity results in our being cut off and cast away, are we saved or lost? The context is clear.**
4. Galatians 5:1-4... It is possible to fall from grace. (Also Heb. 12:15)
 - a. Paul says in verse 4, "Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace." In the context, he is rebuking them for having a tendency to return to the old law and to circumcision. He warns them that in doing so, Christ will become of no effect unto them and that they will fall from grace.
 - b. Grace is something that saves us, obviously. **We can fall from that which saves us.** In addition to the grace aspect of this verse, it is said that Christ is of no effect unto us. **And so in doing this, we lose grace and Christ both at the same time.**
 - c. **Some want to argue that these people were not saved to begin with, but how can we fall from something that we never were in?** You must first be in the tree to fall out of it, right? It is the same here. Many will turn to 3:1 to further substantiate their claim, "O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth." **But notice 5:7**, "Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth." He also addressed the Galatians as brethren (6:1).
 - d. Clearly, these brethren had been faithful, but had recently been misled and were quickly falling from Christ.

5. Hebrews 6:4-12... We can fall away and be rejected, cursed and burned.
 - a. First of all, who is under consideration here? Notice verses 4-5. This person was enlightened, had tasted the heavenly gift, had partaken of the Holy Spirit, tasted the good word of God and the powers of the world to come. **Is this person saved or lost? Can a lost person taste heaven and partake of the Holy Spirit? No. Clearly this person is saved!**
 - b. Okay, now beginning in verse 6, we are told, "IF they shall fall away." This indicates that it is possible for this person to fall away. It also tells us that they were saved, for how can you fall from something you were never in to begin with?
 - c. What is the result of their falling away? It says that they crucify for themselves again the Son of God, and according to verse 8, **they are rejected by God, cursed and eventually burned.** After falling away, are they saved or lost? Can we be rejected by God and still possess eternal life?
 - d. And then notice verse 11, "And we desire that every one of you do **show the same diligence** to the full assurance of hope unto the end."
6. Hebrews 10:38-39... Drawing back unto perdition.
 - a. Again, who is under consideration here? It says in verse 36, "After ye have done the will of God." And also in verse 38, "Now the just shall live by faith." These people are clearly saved.
 - b. It says here that a just person can draw back unto perdition, and the result is that God has no pleasure in us. What is perdition? It is defined as damnation. Judas is referred to as the "son of perdition (Jn. 17:12)," as is the antichrist (2 Thess. 2:3).** Can we be in perdition and still be saved?
 - c. The very fact that God warns the people here indicates that it is possible. We are told in verse 35 not to "cast away therefore (our) confidence." And still, the point is clear that obedient, justified and faithful people can draw back. We should, however, believe unto the saving of the soul.
7. James 5:19-20... A brother can err from the truth and his soul is lost.
 - a. Many want to say that we cannot use Hebrews or James because they were addressed to Jews, to the "twelve tribes which are scattered abroad." First of all, there were physical Jews that became Christians and were still afterwards referred to as Jews (Gal. 2:13). **Also, in James 1:1, he identifies himself as a "servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ," and then addresses them as brethren.** Also in 2:1, "My brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ." **Why is it hard to believe that James wrote to Jewish Christians?** Or is it not also possible that He was writing to spiritual Israel (Rom. 4:16; Gal. 6:16). This point is very important.
 - b. Okay, in James 5:19, the writer addresses them as brethren. He then says, "If any of YOU do err from the truth." And so Christians can stray from the truth. When they do this, are they saved or lost? It says in verse 19, "And one convert him." So this Christian, when he falls from the truth, needs to be converted. Why? Because he is now considered a sinner, and his soul is dead (v20). **Clearly, a Christian can die spiritually and needs conversion.**
8. 2 Peter 2:4-9... Even the angels were cast from heaven.
 - a. It says in verse 4, "For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgement." When they face judgement, it says in verse 9 that they will be punished."
 - b. If the angels could sin and consequently be cast down to hell, is it not clear that we can also sin so as to lose our salvation?** Mankind is lower

than the angels (Heb 2:7). **If they could fall from salvation, so can we!**

9. 2 Peter 2:20-22... We can go back into the world and our state be worse than ever.
- Based on the description in verse 20, are these people saved or lost? Peter says, “For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.” Of course, they are saved. They are no longer in the world, for they have escaped from it. How? Through Jesus Christ- who is Lord and Savior. The claim that these people are not saved is absurd.
 - What happens to these saved people? Well, after they escape the world, it says that they are again entangled therein. In other words, these people are turning back to wickedness. The result is that the “latter end is worse with them than the beginning.” What was their beginning? As with all people, they were at one time lost in sin. **Now it says that the latter end (after being entangled again in the world) is WORSE than that, worse than being lost in sin.** Are these people saved or have they lost their salvation? The answer is obvious.
 - Again, to sum up- these are people that have escaped the world through Christ and are in fact said to have “known the way of righteousness.” After being saved, they are again consumed by the world and are now in a worse state than they were before they knew Christ. The picture of a dog returning to its vomit is given.
10. Revelation 3:5, 20:15, 22:18-19... Our name can be removed from Book of Life.
- We also find that our names can be blotted out, or erased from the Book of Life. This point is key! This proves that salvation can be lost. Let us explain.
 - According to Rev 20:15, if your name is not found in the Book of Life, then you are clearly condemned.** And in 21:27, we learn that those whose names ARE found in the Book of Life will be granted access to heaven. **So we can conclude that salvation is connected to our name being in the Book of Life.**
 - Two verses in Revelation show that our name can be removed from the Book of Life. In 3:5, we are told, “He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the Book of Life.” Christ tells the Christians that IF they overcome, their names will remain in the Book. The opposite is also true- if they fail to overcome, their names WILL be blotted out of the Book. The same point is made in 22:19, “And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the Book of Life.” **Keep in mind that the Book of Life and salvation are inseparable.** Clearly, if our name can be removed from the Book of Life, we can lose salvation.
 - Finally, keep in mind that in order for our name to be blotted out of the Book of Life, it must be there to begin with.** So we have someone who is lost; then they obey the gospel and are saved (name added to Book of Life); they fail to overcome and name is removed from Book of Life; result is a fallen Christian, a lost individual.

D. Questions:

- Is it possible for a Christian to turn from righteousness? What is the result?
- Is it possible for a Christian to fall from grace? What is the result? (Heb. 12:16-17)
- Can someone who is unforgiven go to heaven?
- If God rejects us, are we saved or lost?
- Are all names of all saved people written in the Book of Life? Must one’s name be in the Book to be saved? What about those whose names are not there?

IV. Arguments Used To Support OSAS.

A. While it is good to show from the scriptures that salvation can be lost, it is also necessary to address the passages commonly used to support this false doctrine. Let us deal with some of the main arguments in detail.

B. Main Arguments:

1. You can't lose something that's eternal.

a. We already dealt with this in point (II). Eternal life is not *actually* possessed here on earth, but rather we possess it *in promise* (1 Jn 2:25). Do we have it? Yes. Do we have salvation? Yes. **We can say that we are saved, but that assumes that we remain faithful**, as God WILL remain faithful and will never go back on His promise (2 Pet 3:9).

b. **Either way, if God has made eternal life conditional, then it can be lost if we fail to meet the conditions set forth.** It is much like when you purchase a car. The car belongs to you and you own it, but that assumes that you continue to make the payments. You see, it is conditional. If a person buys a car but then doesn't make any payments, they will lose the car.

2. We are sealed with the Holy Spirit.

a. This concept is drawn from Ephesians 1:13-14, and while it certainly is biblical, many people misunderstand the passage. It is NOT teaching the salvation can never be lost. Paul says, "In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise, which is the *earnest of our inheritance* until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of His glory."

b. **The word "sealed" signifies authority and ownership, that we belong to God. And so when we are sealed by the Holy Spirit, in essence, we have become God's possession and He approves of us.** The Holy Spirit also is said to be an earnest for our inheritance. **Now, this tells us that we do not actually possess our inheritance YET.**

c. Calvinists pervert the text and conclude that the seal cannot be broken. But how do they come to this conclusion? **Can they prove that the seal is unbreakable? No.** It CAN be proven, however, that the seal CAN be broken. In 2 Timothy 2:19, the seal is defined, "Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, *having this seal*, the Lord knoweth them that are His. And, let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity." The first part of the seal identifies us as belonging to God; this point was made in the previous text. But the latter part of the seal shows that it is conditional. We must depart from iniquity. What if someone names the name of Christ but fails to fully depart from iniquity? What if a faithful Christian decides that he wants to return to iniquity? The seal has been broken.

d. Many also want to claim that the Holy Spirit can not be lost, **but we find many places in the Bible where people either lost the Holy Spirit or were in danger of losing Him.** Consider 1 Samuel 16:14; 28:16 and Psalms 51:11.

e. This argument is based on two presuppositions; one, that the seal cannot be broken (which cannot be proven), and two, that the Holy Spirit cannot be lost. We have shown that both of these common arguments are false.

3. God is faithful.

a. Clearly, God is faithful (1 Cor 1:9; 2 Cor 1:18). In no way are we denying that. But in saying that salvation can be lost, **our point is not that God is unfaithful, but rather that we as humans ARE!** God does not break promises, but we do. God is not capable of sin, but we are. God is pure and

holy, but we can be impure and unholy! **We can choose to forsake God.**

b. **To use this as an argument for OSAS is illogical, as it proves nothing as far as our abilities are concerned, nor does it prove that salvation is unconditional.** God can be faithful, but still in the process we lose our salvation (because of our unfaithfulness). Compare it to a husband and wife. Let us say that the husband is completely loving and faithful to his wife, but is it not possible that the wife can choose to be unfaithful? Does that deny the faithfulness of her husband? What if he chooses to leave her because of her unfaithfulness- is he unfaithful now? Of course not.

c. We will examine in more detail John 6 and John 10 in just a moment.

4. Satan is not more powerful than God.

a. Those who say that salvation can never be lost want to accuse us of saying that Satan is more powerful than God. After all, if a person can sin so as to lose their salvation, then somehow the devil has ripped us from the hands of God. This is absurd!

b. **First of all understand that when we sin, it is our own fault.** We cannot blame the devil when we fall short. As seen in 1 Corinthians 10:13, every temptation that we encounter can be overcome. It's not as if Satan is forcing us to sin and thereby ripping us from the hands of God. People want to blame the devil, but when we sin, we can only blame ourselves.

c. When we say that salvation can be lost, we are not saying that God is unfaithful, nor are we saying that Satan is more powerful than God. **Our point is simply that people can CHOOSE to forsake God.** Does God take pleasure in that? Of course not. But He allows it because He has given us free-will to choose (Deut 30:19-20). **That is the entire point- either we have free-will and can leave God or we are robots.**

5. How can you be UNBORN?

a. In John 3:1-5, Jesus is talking to a man named Nicodemus. We find here a discussion of being born again. While Nicodemus struggled with this concept, Jesus said in verse 5, "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, *except a man be born again*, he cannot see the kingdom of God." Calvinists love this passage, and they will continue to point out that we are born again and that we are children of God, and their conclusion is that we cannot be unborn and that God will never turn away His children.

b. It is true that we are born again, **and it is also true that we cannot be unborn**, but we do find that Christians can be disinherited. In other words, if we become unfaithful, we lose our inheritance.

c. To prove that this is a biblical concept, notice the words of God in Numbers 14:12, "I will smite them with the pestilence, *and disinherit them*, and will make of thee a greater nation and mightier than they." God told the people of Israel (His chosen people), that He would disinherit them if they continued to be unfaithful. That is true with Christians today- **we can lose our inheritance**. As noted above, we do not actually possess our inheritance yet- it is waiting for us in heaven (Eph 1:13-14; 1 Pet 1:4). We are told in Ephesians 5:5 that no wicked person will have an inheritance, and we must ask the question- can a Christ person become wicked? Yes. It is also said in Hebrews 9:15 that Christ is the Mediator of the new testament that "they which are called *might* receive the promise of eternal inheritance." He does not say here that we WILL receive it, or that it is unconditionally given; the language seems to indicate that we can fall short of it.

6. Salvation is a free gift.

a. Many will argue that salvation is a free gift, and “How can you lose something that is free.” Others will say, “You didn’t do anything to get it, so what could you do to lose it?” While salvation is a gift given to us by the grace of God (Rom 3:24), and while we certainly do not earn it, **it is also true that we are active in obtaining it.** As seen in Ephesians 2:8, we are saved not only by grace, but also by faith. Faith is something that we have, that we develop by hearing the word of God (Rom 10:17), and faith is a work (Jn 6:29; 1 Thess 1:3). It also says in Heb 5:9, that Christ saves only those who obey Him. **And finally, the question, “What must I DO to be saved?” is a biblical one (Acts 2:37; 9:6; 16:30).** So this idea that we do NOTHING to be saved is absurd.

b. **This argument is based on the false presupposition that something freely given can never be lost.** That is illogical. I can lose something that I pay for just as easily as I can lose a gift that was given to me. If someone gives you a free item, you can lose it or even throw it away. God is not going to rip salvation from us; He is not going to take back His gift. But we can choose to throw that gift away and return to the world (Heb 6:4-6).

7. Rewards can be lost, but not salvation.

a. **The Bible never speaks of reward(s), but it does speak of THE reward, and that is, eternal life in heaven (Matt 5:12; 6:1; Mk 9:41; Col 2:18; Heb 10:35).** That is what Christians look forward to. **Our reward is the inheritance of heaven (Col 3:24).** *If we can lose rewards in heaven, then could we not also lose our inheritance entirely?*

b. A commonly perverted passage is 1 Corinthians 3:13-14 where Paul says, “Every man’s work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire, and the fire shall try every man’s work of what sort it is. If any man’s work which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man’s work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; ye so as by fire.” Calvinists want to use this passage to say that we can lose our rewards but not our salvation. **The context, however, makes it very clear that Paul is not discussing the general works of Christians, but rather the efforts of preachers as they teach the lost.** Notice verse 6, “I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.” The point in verses 13-14 is simply that if a gospel preacher converts many people and they are unfaithful, he will still be saved even though they may not be. Some might still argue that a reward is received for the work. This is true, but is it necessary to conclude that this is a bigger mansion or a literal extra reward in heaven? No. It could very well be the satisfaction of knowing that you brought many people to heaven with you!

8. True Christians will not fall away.

a. **Calvinists often want to make two contradictory arguments. On one hand they argue that Christians can sin all they want and yet remain saved, but on the other hand, they want to say that Christians will NOT sin and fall away if they are truly saved. Which one is it? They can’t have it both ways.**

b. The proof text here is 1 John 3:6, “Whosoever abideth in Him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen Him, neither known Him.” Is John saying that Christians cannot sin? No. In 1:10, he says that all Christians sin. So what is the point in chapter three? The point is that we cannot sin and be consistent with Christ. Relate the words here to Romans 6:1. The idea that we

can continue in sin and still be saved is false. **If someone is “converted” yet they continue in sin, it is likely that they were never converted to begin with, as conversion involves repentance and a desire to change.** The summary can be found in verse 10.

c. **Someone who is truly converted CAN fall away (Heb 6:4-6).**

C. Answers To Some Misused Verses:

1. John 6:37-40

a. It is so sad that such a beautiful text is misused and twisted by the religious world. The point of the passage is that God is loving and faithful and wants us to be saved, yet Calvinists pervert this by saying that Christians can never lose their salvation.

b. Jesus says in verse 37, “All that the Father giveth Me shall come to Me; and him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out.” Will God cast us out? Of course not. Again, He is faithful and holds to His promises. **But we can choose to leave God, can we not?**

c. In verse 39, “And this is the Father’s will which hath sent Me, that of all which He hath given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.” In other words, it is God’s will that His people (Christians) never perish. **But we must recognize that God’s will CAN be ignored and even broken. It is also God’s will that ALL be saved (2 Pet 3:9), but we know that will not happen.**

2. John 10:27-29

a. Another beautiful yet misused passage. The point here again is that God is faithful and loves His children. **Notice also that the role of man is not even under discussion, but rather the role of God and His desire for us.**

b. Jesus says, beginning in verse 27, “My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me: And I give unto them eternal life: and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of My hand. My Father, which gave them Me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of My Father’s hand.” Let us take this one verse at a time.

c. In verse 27, **notice the character of His sheep.** They both *hear* and *follow* Christ. **What if a sheep ceases to hear and follow? What if we become disobedient and unruly? Does Christ force us to stay in His flock? No.**

d. In verse 28, several points are made. It is true that God gives us eternal life, but again, this is a conditional gift, and is actually something that we possess, not actually, but in promise. It is also true that we will never perish, but again, it is God’s role and power that is under consideration here. This is not saying that we cannot make the choice to leave God’s flock resulting in our perishing. **The point is that God will not allow anyone to take our salvation from us, and assuming that we are faithful, we will never perish.**

e. In verse 29, we are again told that no man can take us from our Father’s hand. We agree with this. Nobody can take your salvation from you, nor can the devil take it from you. If you fall away, the only person to blame is YOU.

3. Romans 8:38-39

a. Another beautiful but misused verse. We are told here, “For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

b. **First of all understand that God loves us even when we are unfaithful, but this does not mean that we are still saved. God is loving, but He is also just. Nothing will ever separate us from His love, but we can reject the love of God and choose sin, and that WILL result in our losing salvation.**

4. 1 Peter 1:5

a. The verse says, “Who are kept by the power of God *through faith* unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.” Are we kept by God? Yes. But is it unconditional? No. **We are kept by God *through faith!* Easy!** What if we stop having faith? Then we cease being kept.

D. Questions:

1. Do our actions as Christians affect the Holy Spirit? Can we lose the Holy Spirit?
2. While God IS faithful, is it possible for Christians to be unfaithful?
3. Can we disinherit our children? Is that possible?
4. Does God still love us when we sin or even fall away?
5. If we lose our salvation, does that require that God is somehow unfaithful?
6. Can any man take away our salvation? Can the devil? Can we?
7. Are we kept by God unconditionally? Can faith be lost?

V. Conclusion

A. We have shown from the Bible that salvation is conditional, that eternal life is possessed in promise (not actually), and that salvation can be lost. **The Bible does not contradict itself, which means that if we can present so many passages proving the possibility of apostasy, then maybe, just maybe, it is true.** Not only did we affirm the position that salvation can be lost, but we also dealt with the many arguments and passages used to support OSAS.

B. While the OSAS doctrine may be appealing, it does not originate in the scriptures. The many warnings given by the apostles and the clear examples of apostasy should convince us, but for many, it will not. Why not? Is it because God doesn't make His case strongly enough? No! **It is because of the emotional wall and stubborn heart that many undoubtedly have.**